

REMARKS

Claims 1-21, 23 and 32-39 are pending. Claim 22 has been cancelled. The Examiner's reconsideration of the objection and rejections is respectfully requested in view of the amendments and remarks.

Claim 3 has been objected to for an informality. The Examiner stated essentially that the word "an" before network should be "a". Claim 3 has been amended to recite, "wherein the active object is a network accessible active object." The Examiner's reconsideration of the objection is respectfully requested.

Claim 1 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite for failing to particularly point out and distinctly claim the subject matter which applicant regards as the invention. The Examiner stated essentially that the phrase "profile of available" is unclear. A similar limitation appeared in claim 23.

Claims 1 and 23 recite, *inter alia*, "defining an access right of the second client, wherein the access right determines a portion of the electronic profile accessible to the second client via the active object."

In claims 1 and 23, "of available" has been amended to "accessible". A portion of the electronic profile is accessible to a second client. The limitation is believed to be clear and satisfy 35 U.S.C. 112, second paragraph. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 and 23-31 have been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Engstrom (US Application Publication 2002/0138286). The Examiner stated essentially that Engstrom teaches all the limitations of claims 1-21 and 23-31.

Claims 1 and 23 claim, *inter alia*, "storing a contract template, wherein the contract template comprises a plurality of roles and a plurality of access rights, wherein each role is associated with at least one access right; staffing each role with one of the first client and the second client, wherein the first client and the second client each provide access to corresponding electronic profiles accessible by corresponding active objects; and assigning access rights to the first client and second client according to the contract template and the active objects."

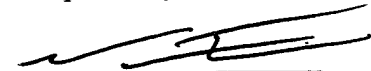
Claims 1 and 23 include the allowable limitations of claim 22. Therefore, Claims 1 and 23 are believed to be allowable over the teachings of Engstrom. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-21 depend from claim 1. The dependent claims are believed to be allowable for at least the reasons given for claim 1. Claims 22 and 24-31 have been cancelled. The Examiner's reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim 40 has been rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Theimer et al. (USPN 5,493,692). Claim 40 has been cancelled. Reconsideration of the rejection is respectfully requested.

For the foregoing reasons, the application, including claims 1-21, 23, and 32-39, is believed to be in condition for allowance. Early and favorable reconsideration of the case is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,



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